

Good afternoon,

I am re-sending testimony for publication on the CGA website. Please post this on my behalf. I thank you in advance.

Henrietta E. Vadnais

Testimony before the Public Health Committee  
RE: Senate Bill 133 An Act Concerning Licensure for Professional Counselors  
Public Health Committee, February 17, 2016

Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter, and esteemed members of the Public Health Committee:

My name is Henrietta Vadnais and I have a master's degree in Psychology and over 25 years of experience providing mental health services. I have worked as a mental health clinician, crisis worker and outpatient therapist. I now work in an academic setting and was preparing to take additional graduate courses to fulfill the current requirements for the LPC credential.

The Changes proposed in Senate Bill 133 would exclude me, and many others with education and experience like mine, from being able to obtain licensure in the state of CT. Our demonstrated competence in delivering quality mental health services provides ample evidence that degree programs other than counseling programs prepare individuals to work in the mental health field.

I oppose the changes proposed in Senate Bill 133. I urge the Public Health Committee to also oppose SB 133 and consider the impact that such a restrictive licensure process would have. Many qualified and experienced mental health practitioners would be barred from obtaining a license. Individuals in need of expert care will ultimately be affected as the pool of competent mental health providers diminishes.

Respectfully,

Henrietta Vadnais, MA  
Bethlehem

Retta Vadnais